



THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Public Health Inspector
for the year
1969

THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:

Lt. Col. M. C. W. P. Consett, J.P.
(Ex-officio Member of Health Committee)

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

A. H. Gill
(Chairman of Health Committee)

COUNCILLORS:

W. A. Ashpole (PH)	C. J. Megson (PH)
G. H. Barley (H:PH)	Major A. G. Moon (H:PH)
W. F. Barton (F)	J. W. Ormston (F)
B. Bosomworth (PH)	A. Palliser (H:F)
R. Brooke (H)	S. T. Pearson (H:PH)
J. R. Bumby (H:F)	T. E. Ramshay (PH:F)
W. S. Chambers (F)	J. L. Ridger (PH:F)
F. A. V. Cook (F)	H. V. Rutherford (PH:F)
H. D. Craig (H)	M. Sanderson (F)
Wing Cdr. D.E. Davies, D.F.C., A.F.C. (H:F)	J. Smith (PH)
J. C. Dickinson (H:PH)	J. W. Stirke (H)
Rev. J. C. Dupuis (H:F)	W. B. Stonehouse (PH)
J. D. Gill (PH)	S. F. J. Till (F)
L. M. Greensit (F)	W. L. Townend (H:PH)
W. Hunter (H:F)	G. C. Turton (PH)
Mrs. C. E. Kenworthy (H:F)	C. F. Walker (H:F)
Miss V. J. Maynard (H:PH)	Brig. J. F. Walker, D.S.O., J.P. (PH:F)

(H indicates Member of Housing Committee; PH indicates Member of Public Health Committee; F indicates Member of Finance and General Purposes Committee)

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL:

W. A. Wilkinson

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

H. Gray, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

R. M. Sharphouse, M.A.P.H.I., A.I.H.M.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

B. Stephenson, M.A.P.H.I., (Dip. Meat and Other Foods)

Additional Public Health Inspector:

D. H. Teale, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Dip. P.H.I.E.B.)

I N D E X

Page 1. List of Council Members and Staff of Public Health Department.

Page 2. Foreword by Medical Officer of Health.

Page 3. Details of area and vital statistics.

Page 4. Causes of death.

Page 5. Notifiable diseases.

Page 6. General Provisions of Health Services for the Bulmer area -
(Sub-headings:- Laboratory Facilities; Ambulance Service; Maternity and Child Welfare; Nursing Services; Vaccination and Immunisation)

Page 7. General Provisions of Health Services for the Bulmer area -
(Sub-headings:- Domestic Help Service; Chiropody; Care and After Care; Family Planning; Routine Screening; Nursery and Child Minders.

Page 8. Foreword by Public Health Inspector.

Page 9. Water supplies.

Page 10. Water supplies - dwellings and population served by water mains.

Page 11. Housing.

Page 12. Housing - Statement A.

Page 13. Housing - Statement B.

Page 14. Housing - Statement C.

Page 15. Food Hygiene; Poultry Inspection.

Page 16. Poultry Inspection.

Page 17. Meat Inspection.

Page 18. Ice-cream; Milk; Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Page 19 and 20. Sewerage.

Page 21. Public Cleansing.

Page 22. Public Conveniences; Mortuary; Common Lodging Houses; Caravans; Petroleum.

Page 23. Building Regulations.

Page 24. Rodent Control.

Page 25. Factories (prescribed particulars)

Page 26. Schedule of Factories.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1969

To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is again my privilege to present to you my Annual Report for the year.

The statement table which follows adopts the pattern in which these figures are now supplied by the Registrar General. A direct comparison is now possible with the rates worked out for England and Wales. From this table it will be seen that the comparison is very favourable to the Thirsk district. The table analysing causes of death merits a mention of the last three headings, in which eleven deaths from motor vehicle accidents, four from other accidents and three suicides are listed. These eighteen deaths should not have occurred.

Progress continues with Council house building, with improvements to existing properties with the aid of grants, and private building appears to continue. Nevertheless it will be some considerable time before all substandard dwellings can be replaced.

A major sewage scheme at Dalton using the Pasveer ditch, came into operation during the year, but its operation met with considerable troubles not entirely eliminated at the time of writing. A new scheme was given the all clear for the village of Kilburn.

The diversion of motor traffic from the centre of Thirsk which will result from the proposed by-pass, and the improvements to the Market Place when it comes under the ownership of the Council should each play their part in improving the amenities of the area, and add to the standard and enjoyment of its residents.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GRAY, M.D., ChB., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Deaths -	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	91	70	161
			<u>1967</u>
Crude death rate/1,000 population	..	..	9.5
Corrected death rate (Factor 0.97)	..	..	9.9
England Wales	..	..	11.2
			<u>1968</u>
			9.6
			10.7
			11.9
			<u>1969</u>
			11.0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT

1969

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	-
2.	Malignant neoplasm - oesophagus	-	1
3.	" " - stomach	1	-
4.	" " - intestine	1	1
5.	" " - lung, bronchus	5	-
6.	" " - breast	-	1
7.	" " - uterus	-	1
8.	" " - prostate	3	-
9.	Leukaemia	1	1
10.	Other malignant neoplasms	4	6
11.	Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	-
12.	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	1
13.	Hypertensive disease	1	1
14.	Ischaemic heart disease	36	16
15.	Other forms of heart disease	8	11
16.	Cerebrovascular disease	4	10
17.	Other diseases of circulatory system	-	3
18.	Influenza	1	3
19.	Pneumonia	5	2
20.	Bronchitis and emphysema	4	-
21.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
22.	Other diseases, genito-urinary system	-	1
23.	Congenital anomalies	-	1
24.	Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	-
25.	Symptoms and ill defined conditions	-	4
26.	Motor vehicle accidents	7	4
27.	All other accidents	2	2
28.	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	3	-
		91.	70.

Notifiable Diseases

The following cases were notified:-

Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Food poisoning		..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Infective Jaundice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified must be the smallest on record.

HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Since the loss of part of the Riding to the new Tees-side authority the areas into which the County was divided for day to day administration was reduced from 10 to 8. Plans were formulated further to reduce the number of areas to four but owing to the uncertainty about the future of local authorities and the health service as a whole these plans remain suspended pending the outcome of the various government schemes.

In its present form the Bulmer area comprises the four rural districts of Easingwold, Flaxton, Thirsk and Wath, an area of some 400 sq. miles and a population of 62,680. This is comparatively dense in the area adjacent to the County Borough of York but north of this suburban belt the population is more or less evenly distributed into small townships, villages and hamlets.

The Area Offices are situated centrally in Easingwold, shared with Welfare, Mental Health, Children's, Highways and Planning Departments of the County Council.

Your Medical Officer of Health holds appointments with the four District Councils, and with the Health and Education Committee of the County Council, and is a member of the York "B" Hospital Management Committee.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton provides valuable assistance in bacteriological examination of specimens in connection with infectious diseases, and of water supplies.

Ambulance Service.

Two stations, at Haxby and Thirsk serve the area. The accident service mentioned previously in which family doctors are called to accidents in part of the area has been studied widely and other schemes have been modelled upon it, although the scheme has not been extended in this area.

Maternity & Child Welfare.

The fall in births notified prior to 1967 was halted in 1968, but again fell considerably in 1969, the fall being 8.4%. Of these births 873 were hospital confinements. No clinics are held in which ante-natal or post-natal care is given. This is entirely done by General Practitioner and hospital clinics. Increasingly doctors are separating the ante-natal work from general surgery sessions and attendance of the midwife is encouraged at these. This will increase as the full attachment of nurses to general practitioners increases in momentum. Certain nurses, particularly when suitable premises are available are able to hold mothercraft classes at which instruction is given, often a film is shown, and relaxation and exercises carried out. Sixty one women benefitted from attendance at these. The same change may well happen in the case of child welfare clinics especially when health centres become available. At the present time County Council clinics are held at 21 places within the area. The clinic held at Newton-on-Ouse ceased during 1969. Premises vary from our own purpose built ones at Huntington, Thirsk and Easingwold through various stages to some which are very poor. The mobile clinic serves these latter places where the village hall is merely used as a waiting room. 3,238 individual children attended one or other centre during the year at 584 sessions.

Nursing Services.

The following table shows staff employed at the year end:

	<u>Full Time.</u>	<u>Part Time.</u>
Health visitors.....	7	2
Generalised duties.....	9	1
Combined duties.....	7	-
Midwifery only.....	-	-
Home nursing only.....	1	2

This represents a slight increase over the previous year but two nurses were seconded for training for the health visitor's certificate. A series of study days have been arranged which have proved of value to nurses - the subjects for these were of topical interest.

There is a trend in the Health Service, probably resulting from escalation of work, staff and accommodation shortage, and the increasing demands on the hospital service to look more into ways and means of increasing community care. The increasing adoption of the 48 hour discharge after confinement is an example of this but there is a considerable scope for early discharge to home care following operations when home facilities are suitable, and the domiciliary nursing service is in a position to cope with more of this work. It is surprising how widespread is the belief that community nurses are extremely busy. This is not so and they would benefit by more of this type of work being allotted to them in the home.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

In previous reports a table of immunisation procedure has been set out comparing the number of children immunised over the previous five years. Unfortunately the information available from the computerised records is no longer in the same form. The following is a summary of courses completed in 1969.

	<u>Primary Vaccination.</u>	<u>Reinforcing Doses.</u>
Diphtheria.....	593	1207
Whooping Cough.....	562	634
Tetanus.....	680	1220
Polio.....	821	954
Measles.....	757	-
Smallpox.....	391	69

The figures for primary vaccination using triple vaccine appears to be low but this is again due to the change in timing of this course. Of 1048 live births in 1968, 374 received triple vaccine in 1968 and 465 in 1969, making a total of 839, or 80% of those born in that year. In the case of smallpox, Ministry policy was changed, and smallpox vaccination ceased to be carried out in local authority clinics. Children vaccinated fell from 718 in 1968, to 391 in 1969.

Domestic Help Service.

The service continues to expand although in this area the user is below the national average. Aged persons predominate the users, 162 householders helped fall into this group, 8 chronic sick, 6 maternity cases and 24 others represent the rest. Almost 36,000 hours were worked and 30 cases paid the standard charge of 6/-d. per hour.

Chiropody.

Little change was experienced in the service, three part-time chiropodists are used in clinics, and one or two domiciliary cases are paid for by the Council to other chiropodists.

The need exists, as mentioned previously, for a full-time chiropodist possibly shared with an adjoining area.

448 patients are receiving up to six treatments a year.

Care and After Care.

Assistance to tubercular patients continues to decline as the disease loses its severity.

Items of nursing equipment are available on loan to patients on a short term basis, together with various nursing aids.

Health Visitors follow up cases of notifiable disease and advise on hygienic measures in the households.

Family Planning.

Through the agency of The Family Planning Association clinics are held at York, Huntington and Thirsk. The County Council assists the Association financially on a per capita basis, and the clinics at Huntington and Thirsk are at the disposal of the Association. Recently family planning has become a subject discussed publicly in the mass media and ignorance of the subject must decline. Attendances are increasing in spite of a rearguard action by its opponents. Doubts have been cast on the safety of the 'pill' but the risks are extremely small. Over population and environmental pollution are the most important basic problems to be faced and defeated by the human race.

Routine Screening.

For some years the "nappy test" has been carried out on all young infants for the detection of phenylketonuria, but a more efficient system is now used in which a drop of blood from the babe's heel is sent to the laboratories on a piece of blotting paper. It may be that in the future other defects of metabolism than phenylketonuria will be detected by this method.

Cervical cytology continues steadily but its acceptance by women at risk continues to leave much to be desired.

Routine testing of hearing is attempted on infants by the health visiting staff and doubtful cases referred for more adequate testing. It is hoped thereby to detect cases of deafness at an early stage when much can be done to overcome this handicap. Schoolchildren are screened in school by the audiometric nurse, and it is hoped to institute a vision screening test in schools annually.

A register is kept of those infants requiring special observation (formerly known as "at risk" children) and special attention is paid to those whose early history make them especially liable to develop in any way abnormally.

Nursery and Child Minders.

The 1948 Act was amended in 1968 and registration now includes persons who look after only one child in addition to premises so used. This had led to a considerable increase in such registration, and the opportunity is now taken to ensure that persons who are in contact with children under these arrangements have periodic chest x-rays.

15 premises used as playgroups are registered and 7 individual minders.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1969

To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure to present a report on the work done by the Council in carrying out its duties as Public Health Authority during the year ending December, 1969.

Steady progress continued in both public health and housing matters.

If the more obvious public health deficiencies, such as poor domestic sanitation, are becoming things of the past, new health problems come before the Council. Polluted air is no longer peculiar to industrial areas and much of the population of this rural area now lives in an atmosphere fouled by agricultural factory processes.

In housing, it is difficult to reconcile the mandatory standards of the Parker-Morris Committee with the official approval bestowed on the caravan industry which churns out 'mobile' homes falling short of any recognised standard of habitation or construction. Exemption would appear to depend on a pair of small wheels.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. M. SHARPHOUSE,

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Surveyor

WATER

All main supplies were under the control of the Ryedale Joint Water Board, the major mains network being fed from Ryedale Joint Water Board sources outside the area, and by the Kepwick springs.

Weekly samples of the public supplies failed to produce evidence that the water supplied to the majority of the population is at all doubtful in quality.

The Health department collected eighty-six samples from 'public' sources and twenty-nine from private supplies, all being submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton.

The inconsistency of the results of spot samples taken from 'private supplies' suggests that there are likely to be occasions on which seriously polluted water is consumed and not detected.

From a public health point of view it is advisable that any supply to a number of consumers should be under the control of the statutory water undertaking.

Dwellings and population served by water mains

Parish	Direct to Houses		By Standpipes	
	Houses	Approx. popul.	Houses	Approx. popul.
Ainderby Quernhow	21	80	-	-
Bagby	129	386	-	-
Balk	13	40	-	-
Birdforth	9	30	-	-
Boltby	57	171	-	-
Carlton Miniott	180	520	-	-
Catton	19	57	-	-
Cowesby	25	60	-	-
Dalton	83	270	-	-
Ellenthorpe	12	40	-	-
Eldmire-w-Crakehill	10	30	-	-
Fawdington	4	20	-	-
Felixkirk	29	90	-	-
Holme	16	50	1	1
Howe	13	50	-	-
Humberton	20	60	-	-
Hutton Sessay	27	81	-	-
Kepwick	35	105	-	-
Kilburn	84	252	-	-
Kirby Hill	73	219	-	-
Kirby Knowle	24	72	-	-
Kirby Wiske	47	141	-	-
Knayton-w-Brawith	101	303	-	-
Langthorpe	139	417	-	-
Maunby	48	120	-	-
Milby	23	80	-	-
Newby Wiske	56	168	-	-
Newsham-w-Breckenbrough	38	114	-	-
Norton-le-Clay	29	90	-	-
North Kilvington	12	40	-	-
Pickhill-w-Roxby	88	270	-	-
Sandhutton	80	240	-	-
Sessay	74	222	-	-
Sinderby	32	96	-	-
Skipton	25	75	-	-
South Kilvington	87	261	-	-
South Otterington	100	322	-	-
Sowerby	1103	3292	-	-
Sutton-u-Whitestonecliffe	95	285	-	-
Thirkleby	78	234	-	-
Thirlby	26	78	-	-
Thirsk	1087	3258	-	-
Thornbrough	3	9	-	-
Thornton Bridge	15	50	-	-
Thornton-le-Moor	102	321	-	-
Thornton-le-Street	40	120	-	-
Topcliffe	166	498	-	-
Upsall	24	90	-	-

HOUSING

The Council's first dwellings to the Ministry of Housing Parker-Morris standard were completed during the year. Nine three-bedroomed houses were built at the Little Green, Thirsk, and seven bungalows for pensioners were provided in Sowerby. Both sites being on land designated as Clearance Areas and compulsorily acquired by the Council for re-development.

If this exercise (so called urban renewal) is expensive by comparison with building on open land, no one could deny the worthwhile improvement to less attractive parts of the town area.

Building sites in the villages of Dalton (8 houses, 6 bungalows), Kirby Hill (8 houses, 6 bungalows) and Ainderby Quernhow (2 bungalows), progressed steadily, though virtually no further progress was made towards re-building at Deans Square, Topcliffe.

Standards for new housing must be according to a national standard, however, one cannot but think that the bungalows in Sowerby are more elaborate than the present generation of 'old folk' either wish for or are capable of paying for.

An examination of the housing application register at November, 1969 shows the applicants to be classified as follows:-

Category	Number
(a) Number of applicants occupying houses:-	
(i) Condemned as unfit	5
(ii) Overcrowding cases	-
(iii) Court Orders in force	-
(iv) Terminate service tenancies	14
(v) Others	128
(b) Number of applicants sharing houses:-	
(i) With relatives	12
(ii) Elsewhere	-
(c) Number of applicants for pensioners bungalows:-	
(i) With houses	15
(ii) Sharing houses	4
(iii) Others	52

Repairs and maintenance of the Council's 858 houses was partly carried out by direct labour and partly by private contractors.

Of a total of 1,558 repairs incidents some 920 were dealt with by direct labour. In addition 240 houses were painted by our own workmen.

As a matter of interest the repairs carried out by contractors during the year could be placed in the following broad categories:-

Joiner	number of repairs -	321
Electrician	" "	- 282
Gas fitter	" "	- 35

Statement "A" with this section of the report shows the disposition of Council houses throughout the area, the type of houses, and the date of completion.

Statement "B" shows in tabular form the results of action taken in regard to unfit houses.

Statement "C" shows the position as regards discretionary and standard grants.

Statement A

Council Houses

Bedrooms

	Total	2	3	4	Bung	Built
Ainderby Quernhow	8	3	2	1		P.W. 51
			2			
Carlton Miniott	34		6	2	6	51 67
			20			
Dalton	12		9	3		55
Kilburn	4		3	1		49
Kirby Hill	8		6	2		50
Knayton	6		2			49
			4			60
Langthorpe	24		10	6		P.W. 50 58
			4		4	
Newby Wiske	5	1	4			P.W.
Pickhill	6		5	1		53
Sandhutton	8		4			62
			4			66
Sessay	4		3	1		53
South Kilvington	8		4			P.W. 61
			4			
South Otterington	8		2		2	P.W. 49
			4			
Sowerby	141	20	38	20	12	P.W. 46
		4	9	3		52
			10	1		52
			4	9	4	53
					7	69
Thirkleby	4		3	1		51
Thirsk	513	12	42	14	6	48
		8	14	3		52
			26	16	5	53
						54
			4			56
			12	11		57
			2	9		58
			2	3	16	59
			10		4	60
					5	61
			5	1	5	62
			8	4	4	63
				2	38	64
					20	67
				9		69
Thornton-le-Moor	9		6			49
			3			60
Topcliffe	56		8			P.W. 46
			6			53
		2	3	1		55
		10	13	3	10	67
	858	125	468	119	146	

Statement B

(1) Repair - Housing and Public Health Acts

Number of houses rendered fit after service of notices:-

	Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act 1957		Public Health and similar local Acts	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
(a) By owner	7	2	14	-
(b) By local authority	-	-	-	-
	7	2	14	-

(2) Beyond Repair - Housing Act, 1957

Number of (a) undertakings accepted (section 16)	..	..	4
(b) closing orders made (section 17)	..	..	3
(c) demolition orders made (section 17)	..	..	-
(d) closing orders made (section 18)	..	..	-
(e) closing orders determined (section 27)	..	..	-
(f) closing orders revoked and demolition orders substituted (section 28)	..	..	-
(g) houses demolished following demolition orders	..	..	1

(3) Clearance areas

Represented during year -

(a) number of areas	..	..	..	..	..	-
(b) houses unfit for human habitation	..	..				-
(c) houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	-
(d) houses on land acquired under 43(2)	..					-
(e) number of people to be displaced -						
				- Individuals	..	-
				- Families	..	-

Action taken during the year -

(a) houses demolished by local authorities or owners -						
	- Unfit	..	1			
	- Others	..	-			
(b) number of people displaced						
	- Individuals		1			
	- Families		-			

Statement C

Discretionary Grants

- 1) Number of applications received 35
- 2) Number of applications approved 33
- 3) Number of applications refused 2
- 4) Number of dwellings improved 11
- 5) Amount paid in grants £2,539.
- 6) Average grant per house £230.

Comparison with previous years:-

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Number Approved	45	48	59	36	60	37	21
Amount of Grant	£10,085	£10,974	£13,098	£8,097	£17,677	£9,601	£5,498

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Number Approved	30	30	31	22	18	15	11
Amount of Grant	£7,458	£7,855	£7,780	£9,099	£6,078	£5,025	£2,539

Standard Grants

- 1) Number of applications received 27
- Number of applications approved 27
- Number of applications refused -
- 2) Number of dwellings improved 14
- 3) Amount paid in grants £2,961.
- 4) Average grant per house £211. 10. Od.
- 5) Amenities provided (a) fixed bath 11
 (b) shower -
 (c) wash hand basin 11
 (d) hot water supply 9
 (e) water closet within dwelling 9
 (f) food store 5

FOOD HYGIENE

The number of premises in this area concerned with the preparation, treatment or storage of food is as follows:-

Grocers shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wet fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fried fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Cafes and Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Ice-cream manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Market stalls (approx.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Mobile shops (approx.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Poultry processing factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

FOOD BYGIENE REGULATIONS

Routine supervision of these premises was carried out as far as possible, the results of the inspections being as follows:-

Number of inspections made	..	..	..	..	..	..	127
Number of premises found not to comply	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Number of defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Number remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	33

Poultry Inspection

There are three poultry 'processing' factories in the area, two of which concentrate on turkeys. At one of these premises the product is 'rough plucked', eviscerating not being carried out locally.

Something like 99% of the total production of poultry in the area comes from the Dalton factory of the Buxted Chicken Company Limited which deals with both 'broilers' and turkeys.

The high standards at this factory, plus the firms own qualified veterinary advisory service, relieves the Council to some extent of anxieties which might arise from the presence in the area of such a massive food producing concern.

Nevertheless the department kept the premises under supervision as far as was possible without neglecting other equally important public health matters.

Grading of the birds from a saleability point of view is carried out by the factory staff, those birds placed in Grade 3 being likely to be wholly or partly unfit for food. The local authority has a duty to ensure that such unfit articles of food do not find their way on to the market, or for manufacturing processes.

The tabular statement asked for in Circular 1/68 is below:-

- (a) number of poultry processing premises within the district .. 3
- (b) number of visits to these premises 68
- (c) total number of birds processed during the year 6,872,000.
- (d) types of birds processed - e.g. turkeys, broilers, hens and cocks
- (e) percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption .19%
- (f) weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption .. 68,763 lbs.

MEAT INSPECTION

A complete inspection service was carried out at the four slaughter-houses within the area, the results being shown in the table.

	Cattle Excluding Cows					Sheep and Lambs			Pigs
	Number killed	591	Cows	Calves	
Number <u>not</u> inspected	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>									
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	98	Nil	Nil	3
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>									
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticerci</u>									
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to refrigeration						1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

Unsound food surrendered or condemned:-

							Cwt.	Lbs.
1)	Meat at slaughterhouse	..	..	..	..	..	..	13. 21.
2)	Meat at school canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	- -
3)	Meat at retail shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	70.
4)	Cooked meat and meat products	..	..	..	..	..	..	- -
5)	Canned meats	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.
6)	Fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	- -
7)	Fruit and vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	..	- -
8)	Other foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	- -
							TOTAL	13. 102.

ICE-CREAM

The Council has a duty to keep a register of premises manufacturing or selling ice-cream.

There is only one manufacturer in the area, where the ice-cream is produced by the 'hot-mix' method. Specimens of the product were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and found quite satisfactory.

There are also forty-four vendors of pre-packed ice-cream.

MILK

The milk supplied in the area is a bottled designated milk, chiefly produced outside the area and delivered daily by lorry to the respective dealers' premises, the empty bottles being returned for cleansing.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Good progress was made on the survey of premises covered by the Act and the results, in tabular form, are as follows:-

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	5	52	5
Retail Shops	2	68	32
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	3	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	15	23
Fuel storage depots	-	2	-
TOTALS	7	140	61

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act

77

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions	Section	Number of Contraventions
4	Cleanliness	2	15
5	Overcrowding	-	16
6	Temperature	1	17
7	Ventilation	-	18
8	Lighting	-	19
9	Sanitary conveniences	-	20
10	Washing facilities	-	21
11	Supply of drinking water	-	22
12	Clothing accommodation	-	23
13	Sitting facilities	-	24
14	Seats (Sedentary workers)	-	

3

One accident requiring investigation under the Act was reported during the year.

SEWERAGE

Work continued on the Topcliffe, Dalton and Sessay regional scheme.

The 'Pasveer' oxidation ditch at Eldmire was brought into use towards the back end of the year and effectively treated the effluent from the poultry factory.

In so far as this plant eliminates the sludge problems peculiar to orthodox works it is to be preferred, however, experience to date suggests the process is very susceptible to sewage strength fluctuations.

The disposal of sludge, particularly from the main Sowerby Sewerage Works, was a continuing problem, though a fair quantity was spread on agricultural land.

There are still a number of watercourses in the area polluted by crude or partly treated sewage effluents, most being in the vicinity of dwellings.

Apart from the obvious dangers to humans there is the possibility of infection of farm animals, and this could be a factor in the chain of infection of the parasitic *cysticercus bovis*, which is seen only too frequently in the local slaughterhouses.

The present state as regards schemes in the various villages in the area is as follows:-

<u>Schemes already provided</u>	<u>Existing facilities considered satisfactory for the time being</u>	<u>Sewerage facilities required</u>
Thirsk	Birdforth	Balk
Sowerby	Kepwick	Boltby
Carlton Miniott	Thornton Bridge	Cowesby
Sandhutton	Upsall	+Dalton
Kilvington	Thornton-le-Street	Felixkirk
Catton		Hutton Sessay
Howe		*Kilburn
Kirby Knowle		*Kirby Wiske
Bagby		*Knayton
Ainderby Quernhow		*Maunby
Holme		*Newby Wiske
Pickhill		Newsham
Sinderby		*Norton-le-Clay
Kirby Hill		+Sessay
Langthorpe		Skipton
		*South Otterington
		*Sutton
		*Thirkleby
		Thirlby
		*Thornton-le-Moor
		+Topcliffe

NOTE: * Villages where schemes are in an advanced state of preparation

+ Scheme under construction

Approximate populations served:-

(a)	(b)	(c)
9,256	397	3,935

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council continued to give a complete refuse collection service throughout its area, dustbins being emptied weekly, apart from at a few outlying properties, and ashpits and middens were dealt with monthly.

Disposal was by partially controlled tipping in a disused gravel pit near Carlton Miniott which was brought to surface level by the end of the year.

The task of finding an alternative site was difficult. Of eight possible sites only two had been approved by the Planning Authority, and it is quite apparent that it is the 'end of an era' as far as refuse disposal is concerned.

The alternatives to controlled tipping available to this rural authority appears to be pulverization or incineration. The reduction in volume claimed for the former method would not be sufficient to obviate the need for considerable tip capacity, and an incineration plant offers the only solution.

Something like 7,000 tons of household refuse are collected annually, apart from trade refuse collected separately.

The Council's vehicles at the year end used mainly for refuse collection were as follows, an average of twenty-four drivers and loaders being employed on this work:-

- 2 Shelvoke and Drewry 'fore-and-aft' tippers
- 1 Dennis side-loader (10 cubic yards)
- 2 Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatics
- 2 - 1,000 gallon 'Yorkshire' cesspool emptiers (pails and septic tanks)
- 1 - Dennis Paxit

A limited 'paper sack' system was in operation during the year.

Remote farmsteads have always presented a collection problem, and the running of large vehicles over long lengths of farm road is an uneconomical exercise.

Paper sack containers not only permit collection by a light van, but allow more latitude in intervals between collection, a very big advantage in the winter months.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Though coin receipts are not a reliable method of estimating the number of persons using the conveniences, they provide an interesting comparison with previous years:-

1963	-	109,443
1964	-	120,164
1965	-	117,316
1966	-	112,274
1967	-	106,080
1968	-	104,211
1969	-	85,440

At the request of the Sowerby Parish Council toilet facilities were provided on the Flatts playground.

MORTUARY

The register shows that forty-one bodies in all were accommodated during the twelve months.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses in the area.

CARAVANS

The register shows that licences are in force in respect of fifty-three residential vans and two hundred and eleven holiday vans.

Standards on the recreational sites are generally good, though there was a tendency to neglect the fire fighting equipment.

Several complaints were received during the year from occupants of so-called residential vans, and some families were moved into Council houses. The use of inferior vans for permanent occupation is largely a result of housing shortage, but it is the Council's policy to secure as high a standard as practicable in these vans.

PETROLEUM

The Council issued ninety licences for the storage of 'petroleum' during the year.

In accordance with Home Office recommendations an 'ullage test' was applied to all storage tanks more than twenty years old.

The expert knowledge of the officers of the North Riding Fire Department was readily made available for advising on new installations and the most sensible thing would be for that Authority to take over the powers and duties under the Petroleum Acts.

BUILDING REGULATIONS

During the year 334 plans were submitted to the Council, 57 of which were for new houses.

The examination of plans unless submitted to the Consultant Engineer where extensive drainage or structural work is involved, is carried out by the department, as also is the inspection of work in progress.

The powers to enforce compliance with the Building Regulations rests with the Council, but it is quite apparent that only a very superficial control can be exercised, taking into account other duties and the responsibility for 'Clerk of Works' supervision of the Council's own sites in progress.

The government backed House Builders Registration Scheme was brought into being to safeguard house purchasers, and where applicable this department co-operates with the building inspectors concerned.

RODENT CONTROL

The report on the year's work by the Council's Rodent Operative is given in tabular form:-

The Council's full-time Rodent Operator undertakes free treatment against rats and mice at domestic buildings, and on farm and industrial premises at agreed rates.

Other forms of vermin are dealt with on complaint.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health ((including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Prosecutions
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	34	9	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	58	4	-	-
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases').

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:-					
(a) Insufficient ..	4	3	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	3	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	7	5	-	-	-

Schedule of Factories

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Number</u>
Agricultural Machinery	6
Armament Repairs	1
Blacksmiths	3
Bakeries	3
Boot and Shoe Repairs	2
Burling and Mending	1
Builders and Joiners	16
Coal Gas	1
Egg Grading	1
Electrical Repairs	8
Foundries	1
Grass Drying	1
Laundries	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs	17
Malting	-
Millers	2
Poultry Packers	3
Plumbers	5
Printers	2
Sawmills	-
Scrap dealers	6
Slaughterhouses	4
Tailoring	1
Tanneries	1
	<hr/>
	87
	<hr/>

